2012

Arkansas Department of Career Education's Rehabilitation Services Division





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THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The 14th Annual

YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES



Application Form

June 25-29, 2012

On the Campus of

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS, CONWAY

Two dozen high school aged seniors with disabilities will be selected to attend this exciting, fun and educational five-day training program, with all expenses paid.

YLF 2012 includes:

- A trip to Little Rock to:
 - meet with top state officials in the Governor's office
 - o tour the State Capitol (bring your camera)
- meeting with community leaders who have overcome disabilities and hear their experiences first-hand
- frank discussions about some obstacles and responsibilities you'll face in life

You'll learn:

- how to succeed by making plans and setting achievable goals
- what you need to know about disability law and YOUR rights
- tips on how people with disabilities function in society
- the responsibility that goes along with getting and keeping a job
- when to speak up; advocacy for the disabled
- how others cope; development of peer relationships
- mainstream life skills



The Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) will pay expenses for travel, lodging, food, interpreters and personal care attendants, as needed, for the selected delegates.

Questions? Contact your local ARS office, your ARS or school counselor, or

Carl Enna, YLF Chairman Arkansas Rehabilitation Services 525 West Capitol Little Rock, AR. 72201 800-330-0632

E-Mail questions to: carl.enna@arkansas.gov

Arkansas Youth Leadership Forum 2012 APPLICATION FORM

Complete ALL information. Please **TYPE or PRINT** with black ink. Please see Pages 7-8 for submission deadlines, address and additional important information.

1		2. Male	Female	.
1. Student's Last Name First	Middle Initial		_	
3				
Parent/Guardian Last Name	First	М	liddle	
4				
Residence Address	City	S	tate	Zip
5. <u> </u>				
5 Mailing Address if different than	above City	State	ZIP	
6. Grade Level as of 12/31/2011				
7 (Area Code) Home Telephone Nur	 nber Emergei	ncv/other nu	mber Par	ent's cell
ivinea coacy nome receptions man	c. <u>_</u> c. g c.			
8				
Name of High School or location of	f GED program			
9				
School Mailing Address	City	State		ZIP
10				
School Telephone Number				
11				
High School Guidance Counselo	r's Name			
12. Birth date:	Date	Graduation	Expected:	L
Do you have a computer?	We're going to	oass out a lo	t of info	would yo
it on a CD or a Flach drive?				

13. Physical attributes: Please Check all that apply

[] I use ssign language [] I use assistive listening devices [] I use real time captioning [] I use rote takers Blind/Visually impaired: [] I read with Braille [] I read with large print [] Mental Health Disability [] Neuro/Muscular Disability [] Learning Disability [] Multiple Disabilities [] Other (describe) [] I use a wheelchair/scooter [] I cannot walk upstairs [] I use walker, cane or crutches [] I cannot walk long distances 14). In your own words, describe your disability. (This helps us to assure diversity) 15. Race/Ethnicity: Native American African-American Hispanic White (non-Hispanic) AsianOther 16. The following information is for Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS), or Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) clients only	Deaf/Hard of hearing:	Describe: If you have a Developmental Disability		
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17		
State Senator's Name	District Numbe	r
18	<u></u>	
State Representative's Name	District Number	
	need two letters of recommendation. One nust be from a community representative o	
•	ership skills or your leadership potential. Each sealed envelope. Please submit the two with this application.	
List name, position/title, organiza	ation & telephone number of each refer	ence.
1)		
Name	Title	-
Organization	(Area Code) Telephone Number	
2)		
Name	Title	_

20. School and Community Involvement

On a separate sheet of paper, list your involvement with your high school and community (since 9th grade). This may include club memberships, any offices you have held, after school activities and/or work experiences. Include the length of involvement, your grade level at the time of participation and the name of an adult with whom you worked.

(Area Code) Telephone Number

21. Required Essay

Organization

Your responses to the four topics listed below will be used to assess your readiness to participate in this leadership forum. Write your responses on separate paper and attach to your completed application packet. Your response to this question should not exceed four (4) typewritten, double-spaced pages. (Responses must be double spaced and either typewritten or printed in black ink.) You may submit your responses on audio or video tape, if desired. If you are submitting your answers on tape, there is a 5 minute total time limitation.

- **Qualifications**-Tell us about one of the greatest lessons having a disability has taught you.
- **(b) Positive Influences** In terms of leadership, please tell us about two people who have positively influenced your life. Why? (Families, teachers, counselors, friends, celebrities or public officials are appropriate examples.)
- **Experiences as a Person with a Disability** Describe two important experiences you have had as a young person with a disability. (Please be specific about your examples as they relate to your disability).
- (d) Future Plans Describe your goals for the future.

22. Use the CHECKLIST below to make certain your application packet is complete. All questions must be answered and requested letters and information provided.

Required Items	Enclosed
1. Application form	
2. Two letters of recommendation (in sealed envelopes)	
3. Essay (response to ALL four topics)	
4. Community Activity Sheet	
Signature of Student	Date
If selected, my child has permission to participate in the Y with Disabilities.	outh Leadership Forum for Students
Signature of Parent/Guardian	 Date

DEADLINE is: May 1, 2012

Instructions: KEEP THIS PAGE, DO NOT MAIL WITH APPLICATION

Please mail it to:

Youth Leadership Forum--2012 Attention: Carl Enna Arkansas Rehabilitation Services 525 West Capitol Little Rock, AR 72201

HOW STUDENT DELEGATES WILL BE SELECTED AND APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS

- 1. To be eligible for the Youth Leadership Forum, students must:
- a. Be an Arkansas resident who has a disability (as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act);
- 1. Be in the 11th or 12th grade as of December 31, 2011 (Some age/grade exceptions may be made on a case by case basis);

b. Have demonstrated leadership potential in school and the community

- 2. Student applicants must mail the completed application packet to the address provided as soon as possible and it must arrive NO later than May 1, 2012.
- 3. Semi-finalists will be selected and may be contacted by telephone to arrange a personal interview. The interview will be conducted by a panel coordinated by the Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities and YLF Staff.
- 4. All applicants will be notified by letter if they are selected to attend the forum. No more than 20-25 students will be selected to attend, June 25-29, 2012.
- 5. After being selected, students will be asked to fill out a confirmation form and provide additional information.
- 6. All appropriate expenses will be paid by the Youth Leadership Forum management. These include such expenses as: travel, lodging, food, interpreters for deaf students and personal care attendants for physically disabled students.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS:

Rules and Guidelines for Students Delegates of the Youth Leadership Forum

In order to provide a fun, safe, learning experience at the leadership forum, all delegates will be expected to follow the rules listed below. Students are selected to attend this forum because of their leadership skills and potential. Consequently, students are expected to demonstrate their leadership ability, and must:

- 1. Be punctual.
- 2. Be at designated places and stay with your assigned group at all times. <u>Attendance at all sessions is mandatory.</u>
- 3. Maintain a respectful attitude toward peers, counselors and conference staff.
- 4. <u>Respect the facilities</u> (maintaining the condition of dormitory rooms and all other areas). Participants will have to pay for property damage they cause and for lost room keys.
- 5. When not in assigned groups, males and females are restricted to their own assigned rooms at all times. **No** co-ed visitation is allowed in assigned rooms.
- 6. Smoking and possession or use of illegal chemicals or alcohol are strictly prohibited. (Prescription or other approved medications require verification and can only be dispensed under conditions set forth by YLF staff.)
- 7. All other campus residence halls and facilities are off limits.

Any violations of these rules will result in students being sent home immediately at parents'/guardians' expense. Your application to the Youth Leadership Forum indicates your acceptance of these rules and guidelines

AND... more importantly, we emphasize that delegates are chosen to attend the forum because of their leadership potential. Remember the responsibility that goes with the honor of being selected and plan to have a great time!